

NSC BRIEFING

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1946

4 March 1957

**BACKGROUND--MILITARY STRENGTH IN ARABIAN AREA**  
DATE: 1-16-80 REVIEWED: 372044  
(as of 28 Feb 57)

I.

25X6

II.

III. Yemen: "army" numbers about 26,000 men scattered throughout the country in small garrisons.

A. It is not a modern force, but is receiving instruction in new Soviet-bloc and Egyptian weapons (including artillery) from Soviet, Czech, Egyptian and Syrian officers.

B. Yemeni irregulars available for action probably number about 80-100,000.

C. Yemen has no air force, but has recently received at least 20 Soviet 37mm anti-aircraft guns.

IV. Saudi Arabia: army numbers about 13,500 regulars, augmented by 8-10,000 special tribal troops of the "white army" who serve the king.

A. Saudi forces are poorly trained and led, and are scattered throughout the country. One 2,400 man unit is stationed in Jordan.

B. The Saudi air force includes five Vampire jet fighters and eight B-26 piston light bombers. It is most doubtful that these are available for combat operations.

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ARABIAN PETROLEUM PRODUCTION - 1956

	PRODUCTION OF CRUDE OIL (BARRELS PER DAY)	PROVED RESERVES (BARRELS)	REFINERY PRODUCTION (BARRELS PER DAY)
Aden	None	None	120,000
Bahrain	30,000	205,000,000	205,000
Iran	560,000	30,000,000,000	538,300
Iraq	758,000	22,000,000,000	46,800
Kuwait	1,164,000	50,000,000,000	30,000
Neutral zone (Kuwait-Saudi)	40,000	650,000,000	None
Qatar	128,000	1,500,000,000	600
Saudi Arabia	1,029,000,000	40,000,000,000	189,000

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